

ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE FOUNDATION NEWS



P.O. Box 1419, NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND 02840

WINTER, 1997/98 NUMBER 24

END OF THE YEAR THANKS-GIVING

At the end of each year we reflect on our many, many blessings, and are impelled to express our most sincere thanks to all of you in our Lighthouse Family who have made 1997 a most successful year...this newsletter is dedicated to you!

If you are wondering what happens out at the Lighthouse in the winter time, the answer is the same things that happen in the summer, only with fewer visitors. The light continues to shine nightly, and there is heat, so we continue to have our weekly keepers and overnight visitors, weather permitting.... Because we can't bring students out to the Lighthouse, we instead bring our Lighthouse (on wheels) to the schools for Lighthouse stories and lessons.

Over the years the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation has helped educate thousands of young students about the environment and balance within nature. Our "Living Classroom" has inspired numerous young minds, and our Board and staff remain committed to helping young explorers discover a special world full of fascination and fun. Whether students come to the

Continued on page 2

Keeper Memories

by Dorothy Stedman

Jesse Orton, Keeper at Rose Island Light from 1921-1936, frequently wrote poems about his grandson, Paul W. Stedman. Most express his love for the little boy of five who came to stay every summer to make the rounds with "Gramp" as he attended to his lighthouse duties.

Keeper Orton's grandson is retired now and resides in Florida. Paul still returns every summer for only a day visit to his favorite lighthouse at Rose Island and will tell stories to anyone who will listen. Like the one about the rusty stove....



Each summer Paul & Dorothy Stedman visit the Lighthouse where Paul spent his summers as a child. Dorothy has also made us a quilt for one of the bedrooms.



Great, great grandchildren of Jesse Orton from 1st row (l-r) Maddie Burkett, Lauren & Melissa Stedman; 2nd row: Brooke & Christopher Burkett — all wearing hand painted Rose Island Lighthouse T-shirts!

One day Jesse Orton and the assistant keeper, Charlie Eldredge, saw the tender coming past Castle Hill Light. They knew it would be an inspector from the Lighthouse Service because the tender was larger.

Charlie had been working on the boats and had neglected to blacken the coal stove and consequently the stove rusted. "Start a big fire in the stove" he said, "and get all the pots you can and fill them with water and put them on the stove."

When Inspector Yeates from the 3d District showed up, Charlie informed him that he was making a big meal for some guests that were arriving the following day....The rust was never noticed! *Poems on Page 4*





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The Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation News is published by the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation, Evan E. Smith, Jeffrey C. Hall and Charlotte Johnson, Editors. Non-profit postage PAID at Newport, RI 02840.

The purpose of the RILF (a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization) is to preserve the historic and environmental integrity of Rose Island, to maintain and operate its Lighthouse and to provide education and public access for all people.

To advance our goals, we operate the historic Lighthouse and its surrounding 1.5 acres as an environmental education center. To gain a fuller understanding of the keepers' resourceful, independent way of life and its relevance to us today, people can become the keepers for a day, an overnight or for a whole week, complete with chores. School and group tours can also be arranged. Among the many studies that can be integrated into a Lighthouse visit are: history, preservation, ecology, geology, weather, resource conservation and recreation.

Please visit our web site at roseislandlighthouse.org
We don't do e-mail yet, so please mail correspondence to
RILF News, P.O. Box 1419, Newport RI 02840-0997
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FROM THE PRESIDENT from page 1

Lighthouse or we take the Lighthouse to their classroom, children from around the state are being taught the basic principles of ecology and stewardship.

This year we look forward to working with more schools to help spread our educational messages. If your child's school has not been visited yet, please let us know. We welcome the opportunity to make presentations to grade schools or to assist in making plans for students to visit the Lighthouse in the spring.

Education remains a vital part of the mission statement of RILF, and with your help we can continue to make a difference in our world. One way you can help is by sponsoring children's visits through our annual campaign. Another is to volunteer to help with our elementary school program. We welcome your involvement.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I hope you enjoy this special holiday season and I thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Geraldine R. Pilkington

Geraldine R. Pilkington
President

SWAROVSKI BINOCULARS BENEFIT THE LIGHTHOUSE



SWAROVSKI
OPTIK

For those of you who have gotten to be pretty good bird watchers, the next step is to treat yourself to some really good binoculars. Call Nick Logotheats at 846-1123 for information on **Swarovski** binoculars and spotting scopes. They're not inexpensive, but you will be getting the best and have the satisfaction of benefiting the Lighthouse as well.



New Education Coordinator



Nick Logotheats

Meet Nick Logotheats, our new education coordinator. Nick will be taking the Lighthouse to the schools during

the winter, then taking the students to the Lighthouse in the spring and fall. Many people may recognize Nick from Sachuest Point. We're glad to have made him part of our Lighthouse Family.



Kids at the Norman Bird Sanctuary Harvest Fair try out being keepers in our lighthouse on wheels.



THE KEEPER'S LIGHT LOG

The Rose Island light shone to mark the following special occasions:

- May 26 In memory of member and enthusiastic supporter Margaret (Peggy) Razza, from Evelyn Clary.
- August 2 In celebration of the wedding of Paul Johnson and Karla MacDonald, given by Charlotte Johnson.
- August 7 In celebration of the fourth anniversary of re-lighting the light.
- August 19 In memory of Cutler M. Godfrey (1908-1997) on the anniversary of his birthday.
- September 13 To celebrate the wedding of Shay and Matthew Leary, given by Molly and Donald Magee.
- September 17 In memory of Curtis W. Bunting, Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation founder and President (1984-1992). On the anniversary of his birthday, which is also the anniversary of his wedding to Arva.
- September 19 In celebration of the birth of Annabelle Blessing (7 lbs. 7 oz) to Amanda and Ted Fischer

LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE GIFT? Please consider lighting the light or giving a gift certificate for a night at the lighthouse.



Rose Island Lighthouse, Newport, R.I.

ROSE ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE POSTCARD

A great big thank you goes to Newport photographer John Hopf for finally creating a postcard of the Rose Island Lighthouse! John has also generously donated a whole box-full to benefit the Lighthouse! THANK YOU JOHN!

ROSE ISLAND IN THE NEWS

by Evan Smith

"Extra...Extra...read all about it." Pick up some of your favorite magazines or newspapers and you will be saying the same thing. Articles about Rose Island have been popping up everywhere across the country including the *NY Times*, *People*, *Travel & Leisure*, *Countryside*, *Bon Appetit*, and in the air too... in *American Way* and *Northeast Airlines World*.

You can also spot the Lighthouse on TV as Channel 10 flies over the state and Rose Island; our "Crossed Paths" visit to the Lighthouse has been shown on the local cable channels; and we'll be featured (meaning we get about 3 minutes instead of just a fly-over) in an up-coming 6-hour PBS series on Lighthouses.

The work of the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation is truly paying off. With the equivalence of over \$100,000 in advertising, this media coverage is providing a tremendous boost in what the Foundation is trying to accomplish. With more help from interested readers and the added knowledge that these articles can provide, our goals and initiatives can be felt and heard nationwide.

So catch up on all your reading. Copies of the printed articles are available at the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation office.

NAME THAT TUNE

One of the most popular pastimes at the Lighthouse is playing our piano — it's an old fashioned player piano. The music is on rolls made only of paper and the most popular tunes wear out after a while — even when played very carefully. Our NAME THAT TUNE program gives you an opportunity to help us replace our worn out rolls — YES! They are still being made! We have a catalog of hundreds of tunes, both old fashioned and modern.

Is there a special song or a favorite musical piece that you would like to purchase and dedicate? Well, this is your chance to NAME THAT TUNE... in honor of... in memory of... in celebration of... someone, something or sometime. Roll prices range from \$10 to \$17 each. When you give us your order, you'll also fill out a label with your dedication sentiments on it. We'll stick it onto the roll when it arrives. All dedications will also be acknowledged in this newsletter.

For starters, Phyllis Dukes has dedicated "Amazing Grace" in memory of Michael Scott MacNeil, and Charlotte Johnson has ordering two rolls: "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" and "For Me And My Gal" in celebration of the wedding of her son Paul to Karla MacDonald (photo) which took place at the Lighthouse on August 2.

So give us a call and NAME THAT TUNE!



In November, Barbara & Tim Rogers brought their *R.I. Travel Guide* manuscript to edit during their week as keepers of the Lighthouse. Barbara is also writing an article on Lighthouses that will appear next year in *Yankee* magazine.

per, from page 1

Here is a sample of the poems written by
Jesse Orton to his grandson Paul:

TO MY DEAR GRANDSON, PAUL W.

Little Boy Blue one fine summer day
Left his toys when he had finished his play
And the toys stood still and waiting for him
To play with them on the following day.

But the days have come and the days have gone,
And Little Boy Blue was looked for in vain.
And they looked for the hand of Little Boy Blue;
The toys are wondering, Will he come back again?

One day the toys asked me, "Where is our little friend,
Will he play with us when the day doth end,
Or has he gone on a journey with a dear friend
And will he come back at the journey's end?"

I told them that his mother, was his dear friend
And had taken him home, a few days to spend.
And soon he will return and play with them again
And they all hoped the journey soon would end.

So, Little Boy Blue, I am sending this letter to you
To tell you, your toys are asking for you,
And hope you will return to play again soon
For the toys are all waiting for their Little Boy Blue.

EVENTIDE

They kept this light for many years
This Lighthouse Keeper and his boy
The light was always shining bright,
To guide the ships that pass at night

Ships that sail upon the sea
When near the harbor came
Looked for that light to guide them
To safety and from harm.

No ship ever struck a rock
Or ran upon the hidden shoal.
That welcome light, like a friendly hand
Would guide them safely home

The Keeper now is old and gray
The boy to manhood grown.
I leave this light to thee, my boy,
Keep it as I have always done.

His days he knows are nearly o'er
His work has well been done.
He looks across the western sky
And sees the setting sun.



*Little Boy Blue gets
a lesson in feeding
the chickens from
his grandfather,
Keeper Orton.*

ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

by Leslie Lindeman

President Geri Pilkington opened our 12th Annual Meeting on August 7th in the Vanderbilt Amphitheater at the Doubletree Hotel on Goat Island.

Treasurer Bonnie Brayton Kennedy reported that 1996 was our most successful year ever with revenues that were nearly double those in 1993, when she first came on the Board. Memberships, special events — particularly the Home Tour — and the light-housekeeping education program generated most of this income. Bonnie closed by saying "I am very happy with the financial status of the Foundation and feel that we are ready for our next challenge."

Outgoing Secretary and Nominating Committee Chair, Karen Augeri Benson thanked outgoing board members and also welcomed two newly elected members in the Class of 2000: H. Donald Herminghaus and Mary Lynn Rooke. Other re-elected board members in the Class of 2000 were Edwin G. (Ted) Fischer, Jr.; David C. Hurd; and Laura C. Jenifer.

Just when Karen thought she was done, Geri and Charlotte presented her with a John Philip Hagen pastel drawing of the Lighthouse for her tireless efforts during her three years on the board. Karen promised she was not disappearing altogether, just stepping down from board duties. A warm round of appreciative applause followed.

The executive director's report from Charlotte Johnson alluded to some exciting plans on the horizon that she could not report just yet. She listed some recent articles in such notable magazines as *People* and *Travel and Leisure*, with one coming up next year in *Yankee*, plus the cover of an internationally distributed coffee table book of New England photographs by Carol Highsmith.

In her introduction of the keynote speaker, Wayne "Mr. Lighthouse" Wheeler, president of the U.S. Lighthouse Society of San Francisco, Charlotte explained the significance of August 7th. On that date in 1789 the Congress enacted legislation that



Wayne Wheeler shows his John Philip Hagen pastel drawing of the Lighthouse.

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With the most heartfelt appreciation we recognize the following members, volunteers and supporters for making 1997 such a deLIGHTful and successful one for the Lighthouse.

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 Barbara C. Reinert
 Ben, Laurel & Cady Reisman
 Charles E. Renaud
 Susan Reposa
 Susan L. Revens
 Anne Perry Reynolds
 Charles C. Reynolds
 Mike & Cheryl Reynolds
 Patricia R. Rhoad
 Evelyn Rhodes
 RI Marine Archeology Project
 R.I. D.E.M.
 Dorrie Richardson
 Craig & Sarah Richardson
 Maxine & Stephen Richman
 Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Ridgway
 Travis C. Ridgway
 Dorothy Riesmeyer
 Paul Riordan
 Marie A. Robinson
 The Rockport Company
 Mary Jane S. Rodman
 Anne Rogers
 Mary Lynn & Ralph Rooke
 Rooney, Plotkin & Willey
 Peter Roos
 Rose Petal
 David Rosenberg
 Joyce Rosenthal
 Andrew Ross & Mary Hilderbrand
 Dr. Virginia F. Ross
 Nathaniel L. Roundy
 Rovegno's Bakery
 Mike Rubin, Esq.
 Rue de France
 Rum Runner Liquor Store

Maria Rusling
 Grace H. Sabatini
 Janne L. Sahady
 Maria L. Salas
 Salvation Cafe
 Joanna Salvo
 Carol E. Salwocki
 Sansever, Kimball & McNamee
 Sardella's
 Hillar Sarepera
 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Saunders
 Jean Woodall Scheffler
 Kelly Scheibeler
 Robert & Katherine Schelleng
 Robert Schmeck
 Albert R. Schofield
 William & Cheryl Schreier
 Amy Schuler
 John & Marilyn Schust
 Helen Serachekas
 Shake-A-Leg
 William P. Sharpe
 Launce J. Shaw
 Leon & Doris Shaw
 Mary S. Shea
 Nicholas B. Scheetz
 Sheffield & Harvey
 Rev. Marshall K. Shelly
 Mary A. Shepard
 Emily T.W. Sherman
 Louise A. Sherman
 Pat Sherman
 Sherwin Williams
 Signal Graphics Printing
 Joseph F. Silvia
 Shirley A. Silvia
 Robert & Cynthia Sinclair
 Byron & Donna Sjoblom
 Mr. & Mrs. Richard T. Skinger
 Patti & Milton Sleprow
 Donna Smiar
 Amy & Evan Smith
 Ruth Smith
 Mr. & Mrs. Edward W. Smith
 Joan O. Smith
 Lynn Kay Smith & Phil Haponic
 Mary Lou Smith
 Ruth Smith
 William W. Smith, Sr.
 Col. Wilder M. Snodgrass, USA(Ret)
 Vickie J. Snoy
 Linda & Tim Somes
 Somethin' else
 Lance & Norma Spallholz
 Kathy & Ted Spargo
 William H.F. Spencer
 Alicia R. Spinner
 Harry Spring
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church
 Sarah H. Stafford
 Christopher & Patricia Staley
 Mrs. John H. Stanger

CALENDAR OF 1998 EVENTS

SAVE THESE DATES NOW!

January-April

WINTER LECTURE SERIES

All lectures are held in the Vanderbilt Amphitheater, Doubletree Hotel, Goat Island - starting at 7:00 PM - Seating is Limited - call to reserve a seat. Public Admission: \$3.00. FREE to children under 12, members of The Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation and co-sponsoring organizations.

Wednesday, January 14

THE BIG WEATHER PICTURE:

GLOBAL WARMING AND EL NINO
Gail Scowcroft, URI Global Change Specialist
David R. Vallee, Service Hydrologist, NOAA National Weather Service

Tuesday, February 17

WHERE THE SEALS ARE

Rob Nawojchik, Staff Biologist, Mystic MarineLife Aquarium
co-sponsored by SAVE THE BAY

Thursday, March 12

THE EVOLUTION OF BIRD POPULATIONS IN
NARRAGANSETT BAY AND AT ROSE ISLAND
Eugenia Marks, Director of Issues and Advocacy, Audubon Society of RI co-sponsored by NORMAN BIRD SANCTUARY

Wednesday, April 15

FORTIFICATIONS OF NARRAGANSETT BAY
Walter Schroder, author and historian
Frank Hale, President, Fort Adams Trust

Late May

REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE GARAGE SALE

April 1 to July 15

BIRD NESTING SEASON - Public access limited
Do not walk on the beaches around the island or come ashore, except at the Lighthouse landing. Special accommodations for school tours, group bird-watching tours and overnight guests. Reservations required.

July 16 to Labor Day & Weekends to Columbus Day PUBLIC TOURS OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

10:00 am - 4:00 pm daily

Saturday, July 18

15TH ANNUAL CLAMBAKE

Saturday, September 12

FOURTH ANNUAL "WE ROWS FOR ROSE" REGATTA

Sunday, October 11

COLUMBUS DAY HOME TOUR AND TEA PARTY

Call 401-847-4242 for more information and for reservations.

Eileen & Roger Warburton
Mary Brown Warburton
Marjorie A. Ward
Margaret B. Warner
Mr. & Mrs. George H. Warren
The Water's Edge Flowers
Bill Waterson
Evelyn L. Watkins
Catherine Walne
Eleanor S. Weaver
Paul 'Deerfoot' Weeden
Jane Weidman
Ralph & Kit Weiss
Wellington Square Liquors
Harold B. Werner
Chris West
Paula & Paul West
The West Deck
Robert & Betsy Wettish
U.S. Lighthouse Society
Wayne & Sally Wheeler
Eris A. White
Gustave J.S. White Co.
White Horse Tavern
Cdr. & Mrs. Walter J. Whitley USN(Ret.)
Jennifer L. Whittle
James & Elizabeth Whitworth
Helen M. Wielkiewicz
June J. Wilkinson
William Vareika Fine Arts
Jeffrey & Dianne Williams
Shawen Williams & Andrew MacKeith
Joan B. Wilson
Marge Wilson
Janice & Charles Wiseman
Henry & Diane Wood
Virginia B. Wood
Virginia S. Wood
Kristyn Woodland & Jim Currier
Ardith Woods
Mr. & Mrs. Elliott Wright
Paul, Marge & Michael Wynn
Diane & Paul Yeaton
Yesterday's
Edward & Evelyn Young
B.C. Younger & Associates
Robert G. Zborowski
Robert H. Zeigler, Jr.

*Please forgive any omissions
or misspellings, and also let us
know so we can make the
necessary repairs!*

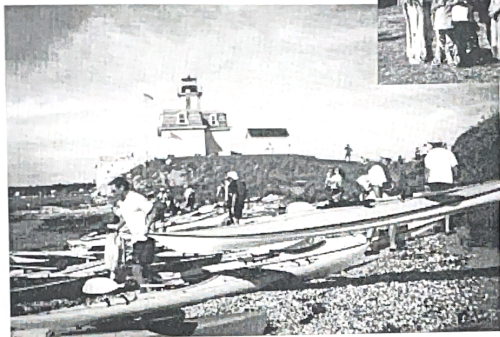
Office
Doubletree
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Stedman
Stephan
Bernice Stoner
L. Edgar Stone
Mr. & Mrs. Prentice Stout
Carolyn S. Strickland
Mr. & Mrs. William J. Struck
Kristine Stuart
Thomas C. Sturtevant
Mr. & Mrs. D. Leo Sullivan
Sheila & Robert Sullivan
David Swain & Shelley Tyre
System-One
Mr. & Mrs. William Tallman
Mr. & Mrs. Irving K. Taylor
Capt. & Mrs. LeRoy Taylor
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Teitelbaum
Thomas A. Tello
Kathy & John Ternchack
Thames Street Liquors
Claire P. Thibeault
Thompson Design Studio
Mrs. Henry Tiedemann
Robert Tomczyk
The Toppa Company
Olga H. Torres
Virginia E. Torres
Richard E. Trahan
Henry P. Trawick, Jr.
Trinity Episcopal Church
Brian Tuck
Matt Tupper
Paul & Joy Twelves
Mary L. Tyler
URI Office of Marine Programs
Castle Hill Coast Guard
Shirley & Raleigh Utterback
David R. Vallee
Onne Van Der Wal
Gordan Van Hook
Barbara & Fred Varner
Joe & Angela Vars
Karen Vaughan
Terry Vazquez
Patricia Venable
Desiree M. Ventura
Elaine B. Vercoe
William & Patricia Vibert
Vicker's Liquors
The Viking Hotel
Raymond Vincent
Jane M. Viti
Mrs. John R. Wadleigh
Cornelia Waldman
Col. Anthony Walker
Liz Walker
A.R.G. Wallace
Jane Walsh
Matt J. Walters
Raymond P. Walters

PHOTOGRAPHIC YEAR IN REVIEW

This summer's fund raising events — the most successful to date — raised over \$20,000 to support our programs! Thanks to all the event sponsors, contributors, entrants, volunteers and ticket holders.

September 6

Third Annual We Rows for Rose Regatta



Mary and Kate Jennings (right) enjoy a break after their exhilarating paddle out to the Lighthouse while other racers pull their boats up onto the beach. Sponsored by The Kayak Centre and Ocean State Scuba.

The race winners were:

Class 1: Jeff Fischer, Amanda Santos, Justin McAloon;

Class 2: Pat O'Brien, Sean Fitzgerald, Jed Wilcox;

Class 3: Mark Vetri, Pat Sheehan, Don Rhoads;

Class 4: Kate Jennings (in the boat she won in the drawing last year), Earl Henry, Winkle Kelly;

Class 5: Alan McKibben, Paul Robinson, Don Hamner, Paula Gaudreau, Ed Monahan & Arthur Cottrell;

Class 6: Joan & Butch Hitchcock, Howard Martinez & Jennifer Morgan, Stan & Ruth Jernigan;

Class 7: Chris Cottle, Michael Webb, David Kyle.



July 19

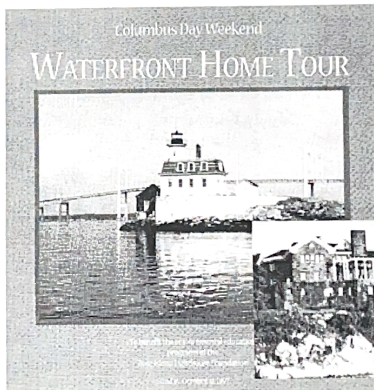
Native American Clambake

We thank Paul "Deerfoot" Weeden, the other members of Bristol's Pokanoket Tribe, and our trusty cadre of volunteers for a memorable clambake at the Lighthouse...the largest ever!

Oct 11-12

Columbus Day Home Tours

With a full color brochure designed by Cullen Designs and printed by Keyprint/Blazing Graphics, this year's two day home tour brought in over \$14,000. What a privilege to see inside some of the most outstanding waterfront homes in Newport. Thanks to the 75 volunteer house sitters and the homeowners of Beacon Rock, Clingstone, Captain John Warren House, Quaker Tom Robinson House and last, but not least, the Sanford Covell House, where people completed their tour with a relaxing cup of tea. If you missed it, Beacon Rock is already scheduled again for next year.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU TO.....

Bill Reagan for two new pilings to hold our floats in place
Jon Powers for a lobster trap so our keepers can catch their dinner

Mrs. Charles McSparren for a hand made quilt
Holly & Ed Pagliaro for lots of great furniture and apartment furnishings. Some pieces are for the lighthouse and you'll be able to buy others in our spring garage sale fund raiser
John Heon for building two glass doors transforming an old armoire into a superb display case

John Majewski for stripping and painting a particularly difficult bookcase for the Lighthouse living room

Bill Mackay for stripping and refinishing the "seafarer's locker" donated by the Seamen's Church Institute. (Thanks also for Sally's help.)

Tom Tello for solar garden lights we put along the pier
Chris & Candy Powell for an old steamer trunk we'll use to store pillows and blankets

Janice & Chuck Wiseman for a tall oak dresser and a little bedside table

J. Wayne Bystrom for a print of the Rose Island Lighthouse from his American Lighthouse Series

Dick and Sandy Glessner who sent us a great "R.I. Lighthouses" T-shirt they bought at the Gray Quahog in Wickford

Donna Reed and family for new bunk bed sheets and Captain's shirt for Charlotte.

Dorothy Eschenheimer for a miniature porcelain tea service with a pink rose design (what else?)

Ken O'Shea for a pile of old charts (now we need a volunteer to sort and inventory them!)

Florence Archambault for a copy of her newest book *A Selection of Historical and Social Articles Pertaining to Newport, Rhode Island* for the Lighthouse library.

Wayne Wheeler for copies of the 1912 plans for the Lighthouse addition and the new fog horn building from the U.S. Lighthouse Society's microfilm collection.

VOLUNTEER (or at-cost) SERVICES NEEDED for these projects:

- ★ Stripper to do (or undo) a glass-front cabinet.
- ★ Photo framing (involves sizing and cutting mats).
- ★ Story-Tellers - we'll train three (3) people to help with our in-school program which involves reading stories and doing demonstrations.
- ★ Fair & Foul - Weather Observers — Rain or shine — We'll train up to 12 reliable people to attend summer weekend fairs & festivals to monitor the weather and represent the Lighthouse Foundation in our booth.
- ★ Looking ahead, we'll also need four to five summer guides daily from July 15 through Labor Day and fall weekends to Columbus Day.

WHEN YOU WISH UPON A

This is our wish list of things for the lighthouse and/or the office. As always, all donations are tax-deductible. We're looking for...

★ Three or four ship's wheels or wooden wagon wheels that we can make into platforms to attract nesting osprey.

★ Piano rolls and 78 rpm records for the old-fashioned "entertainment center"

★ A full (double) size iron bed

★ Paper cutter and manual pencil sharpener

★ Old kitchen gadgets—things like wooden spoons, rolling pin, cutting board, mixing bowls, sifters, knife sharpener (the kind that looks like a round steel sword) and old cook books especially. By the way, has anyone seen our spiral bound "Charting Your Course" cookbook that was photographed in the *Travel and Leisure* article? If you borrowed it, now's the time to return it!

★ An old double-breasted blue suit that we can make into a Keeper's uniform using the Lighthouse Service buttons already donated by Walter Whitley and Wayne Wheeler, plus the Keeper's hat donated by Arva Bunting.

★ Air-tight wood stove — Vermont Casting Resolute preferred

★ Vacuum cleaner

HIGH WIND FLAG AWARDS

In addition to the thrill of being at the Lighthouse during a real blow, the keepers who live through the very highest winds in any given month get to buy us a new flag. Of course, they get the old, totally tattered one for a keepsake. Winners for the previous 12 months are:

Nov. 9, 1996	45 mph	Jay Brundage
March 6, 1997	66 mph	Sylvia & Jim Kroeck
April 1	57 mph	No One - Remember the snow storm?
May 2 & 3	49 mph	Ray & Barbara Hamel
June 26	41 mph	Louise Giannini & Thomas Lennon
July 25	46 mph	Jay Brundage & Family
August 21	58 mph	Bob Brown, Bob Mahon & Alan Thompson
Sept. 20	41 mph	Greg & Peggy Carpenter
October 28	46 mph	Chuck & Nancy Kern
Nov. 1	77 mph	Jeff Sodaro
December 30	59 mph	Dick & Ellen Niles

WEATHER CONTEST WINNER

June's rainfall at the Lighthouse was only 1.47 inches. Every one was way over with their guesses, so the prize went to the lowest guess (2.0 inches) submitted by James F. Bartram of Middletown, who used his winnings to bring his wife, Edna, to our clambake. Congratulations! Because the Lighthouse is dependent on rain for our water, we like to keep up on these statistics. Here are the figures for 1997 that may help you with our next weather contest.

3.77	January
2.25	February
4.95	March
5.29	April
3.12	May
1.47	June
2.84	July
6.42	August
0.75	Sept
2.24	October
5.43	November



Hugo DeAscentis

CALLING IN ALL LOANS!

Have you borrowed a book, video, photograph or article from the Lighthouse or the office? We lost our loan list, so we need to rely on the honor system, which has worked pretty well for us in the past. So here's our reminder to return whatever it is you may have so others can use it. At least give us a call and let us know what you have and how much longer you'll need it, so we can start a new loan list.

Specifically, we are looking for our spiral bound cookbook "Charting Your Course" which was borrowed from the Lighthouse, our copy of the Connecticut Public TV video "Lighthouses of New England," and our U.S. Lighthouse Inventory from the National Maritime Historic Trust (this is a large paperback book with a brick red cover. Thanks for helping us out on this!

With the year being so dry (except for August), and despite our guests and keepers being pretty good about conserving our water, the cistem still got quite low. So low that in October we took advantage of the situation, drained the cistem entirely and scrubbed it (which has to be done every few years anyway). The water was siphoned down the hill into the also - low public toilet cistem (ex-generator bunker). This stirred up sediments, causing the water to become cloudy.

A water sample was tested at the Newport Water Department by Hugo DeAscentis, who prescribed alum to coagulate the particles and clear it up. After the cistem water was treated, it was pumped back up to the Lighthouse. Electricity was provided by our gasoline generator. The whole ordeal took almost a week. Rainfall since then has kept the cistem full with nearly 3,000 gallons ever since.

— 1997-98 Membership Form —

If you are an up-to-date member through June 30, 1998, your mailing label should end in '98. Please use this form to renew your membership, to contribute to our Annual Campaign and/or to volunteer for the coming year. Please include your current phone number and write 'same' if the following information matches your mailing label on the reverse side.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____
Street / P. O. Box City State Zip

CHECK APPROPRIATE BOXES:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Senior | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Inspector | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Business |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Superintendent | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 Assistant Keeper | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Associate Keeper |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 Head Keeper | | |

ENCLOSED ARE:

- ☐ Annual dues in the category checked above \$ _____
- ☐ Additional sponsorship of _____ students @ \$10 \$ _____
- TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

CALL ME TO HELP IN THESE AREAS:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Guide/Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Handyperson/Carpenter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter/Mailings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephoning | <input type="checkbox"/> Annual Boat Haul |

PAYMENT: ☐ Check/Money Order ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX Signature: _____
Card No. _____ Exp. Date: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Please detach and mail with your payment to: RILF, P.O. Box 1419, Newport, RI 02840 Phone: 401-847-4242

WYNN - WIND SITUATION

After high winds from hurricane Edouard knocked our anemometer askew, a new one was properly installed and realigned by Paul Wynn. (While it could still tell us how fast the wind blew, it got the direction wrong.) We give a big hand to Paul, plus Marge and Michael for their time and patience for this very important repair!

In November, our friend Henry duPont of Offshore Services did some maintenance on the Bergey wind turbine — wire brushing, painting and greasing it—along with some not-so-regular maintenance, like removing some kite string! BIG OOPS GUYS!

You may have heard that annually the Bergey 1500 wind turbine and kite eater produces about 90% of the Lighthouse's electricity — pollution free. With the wind averaging 8-12 miles per hour, one clever keeper observed "On Rose Island, a bad hair day is an electrifying experience!"



Annual Report, from page 4

put the organization and support of the nation's lighthouses under the government. Two hundred years later, Newport hosted the U.S. Lighthouse Society's 1989 national bicentennial celebrations, which is when Charlotte got to know Wayne and Sally Wheeler. Then on August 7, 1993, after an exciting campaign to raise \$100,000 to complete the restoration of the Lighthouse and to buy a windmill to produce its electricity, the Rose Island Light was joyously relit. Every year since then, the Foundation has held its annual meeting on that date.

Mr. Wheeler gave a lively slide presentation which began with a bit of history and construction details of early lighthouse designs. He ended by impersonating a lighthouse keeper from the turn of the century period and offering some spirited commentary about his lifestyle.

Tasty appetizers and a beautiful sunset over Rose Island Lighthouse provided a fitting conclusion to the poolside reception that followed our meeting. Thank you to the Doubletree Hotel on Goat Island for extending their gracious hospitality.

